



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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**ALABAMA MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA**

Remained a fugitive with their baby for six years after assaulting former girlfriend

TUCSON, Ariz. – John Walter Bishop, (AKA John Carl Bishop, Carl McNespey, Larry Hocutt, and Franklin Furner), 55, of Birmingham, Ala., was sentenced here to five years in prison by U.S. District Judge Cindy K. Jorgensen. Bishop had been found guilty by a federal jury on August 24, 2004 as a result of an investigation by the FBI and the Benson, Ariz. Police Department.

During the trial, evidence showed that after Bishop's former girlfriend and mother of their child left him due to previous instances of domestic violence, Bishop searched for the victim until he determined where she was living. He traveled from Alabama to Benson, Ariz. and during the evening hours of December 24, 1996, Bishop cut the phone line where the victim was staying with her mother, entered the home and assaulted the victim. After striking and choking her, Bishop threatened his former girlfriend with a gun, tied her up with a phone cord, and left with their baby, remaining a fugitive for nearly six years until being arrested near Birmingham, Ala.

The sentencing occurred on January 10, 2006. The five year sentence imposed by the judge was the maximum statutory sentence allowable for the defendant's offense. The defendant's record included prior convictions for burglary, rape, and two felony counts of child cruelty. The prosecution was handled by Carin C. Duryée, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-2226-TUC-CKJ
RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-011(Bishop)